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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/24/2019  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PINR](#) [UK](#)  
SUBJECT: (C/NF) LIB DEM CONFERENCE: MOSTLY MORE OF THE SAME

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor Greg Berry,  
reasons 1.4 (b/d).

[1](#)1. (C/NF) Summary. The Liberal Democrats' quiet September 20 - 23 conference received mixed reviews in the UK media and did little to tell voters about the  
The Next Elections and Coalition War Gaming -----

[1](#)2. (C/NF) Senior Liberal Democrat leaders - including former leader Sir Menzies Campbell, Defense Spokesman Nick Harvey, Development Spokesman

[1](#)3. (C/NF) Campbell said he foresaw a minority government based on the results of the next elections, which must be held before June 3, 2010.

[1](#)4. (C/NF) Declaring the Lib Dems "don't want to hang with anyone" in a hung parliament, Harvey said a "polite coalition," similar to the arrangement in  
Afghanistan and Pakistan -----

[1](#)5. (C/NF) The conference adopted a resolution on the conflict in Afghanistan and Pakistan, which the right-leaning media houses trumpeted as a

[1](#)6. (C/NF) Separately, the Lib Dems also called for the review of the exchange of notes between the U.S. and UK that allows for U.S. military intervention in  
Domestic Policy -----

[1](#)7. (C/NF) On the domestic front, Leader Nick Clegg's call for "savage" cuts in public spending and Deputy Leader Vince Cable's announcement of a  
Comment -----

[1](#)8. (C/NF) Clegg's final message that the party is ready to govern sounded "dull," as one political analyst put it, after an unfocused conference by  
SUSMAN